

REMARKS

Remarks below follow the headings from the subject office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1,2. Claim 44, upon which claims 45-50 depend, is amended to specify "an expansion-inducing tip *integral with a core material within at least part of said hollow core, and protruding forward of said front of said bullet subassembly.*" This claim is further amended to specify "a connection between said expansion-inducing tip and said pressure shield through said hollow core, *via said core material.*" This should fully respond to examiner's rejections.

While claim 44 is amended to specify that the connection is established via the core material, applicant is of the view that the disclosure may provide enablement for a claim which does, e.g., "read on a wire connecting the tip and the pressure shield" which "securely holds said expansion-inducing tip in place during said bullet's flight to a target." This may be independent of the features of applicant's invention which cause expansion of the projectile upon impact with the target, and irrespective of the fact that in applicant's preferred embodiment, the core material does "double-duty" both to cause expansion upon impact and to secure the tip in place during flight, which further enhances the novelty and non-obviousness of applicant's invention. Furthermore, no prior art has been cited to date which discloses or suggests, e.g., a wire connecting a tip with a

pressure shield, much less applicant's disclosure of double duty for the core material. The current amendment is made simply to bring the present case to a quick allowance, and is made without prejudice to applicant's right to pursue this issue in a future continuation or divisional of the present application.

1,3. Claim 66, upon which claims 67-80 depend, now recites "said expansion-inducing tip *protruding forward of said front of said bullet subassembly.*" This should satisfy examiner's objection.

Once again, the connection between the expansion-inducing tip and the pressure shield through the hollow core is independent of means (including the forward protrusion) employed for ensuring expansion of the projectile upon impact with the target, although in the preferred embodiment, the core material, which is integral with the tip, serves double duty as noted earlier, and thereby enhances novelty and non-obviousness. The current amendment is made simply to bring the present case to a quick allowance, and is made without prejudice to applicant's right to pursue this issue in a future continuation or divisional of the present application.

4,5. Claim 1, from which claims 2-16, 19, 20, 22, 24-27, and 32 depend, is amended to specify "a connection between said expansion-inducing tip and said pressure shield through said hollow core, *via said core material.*" The final clauses in claims 1 and 44 (claims 45-50 depend upon claim 44) are amended to read that "said connection securely holds said expansion-

inducing tip in place during said bullet's flight to a target." These amendments should respond fully to examiner's objections.

As similarly noted earlier regarding claim 44, while claim 1 is amended to specify that the connection is established via the core material, which serves novelty- and non-obviousness-enhancing double duty in causing expansion upon impact, it is applicant's contention that the disclosure does provide enablement for a claim which does, e.g., "read on a wire connecting the tip and the pressure shield" that "securely holds said expansion-inducing tip in place during said bullet's flight to a target," independent of the expansion of the projectile. And, there is no prior art of record to foreclose such a claim. Nevertheless, the current amendment is made simply to bring the present case to a quick allowance, and is made without prejudice to applicant's right to pursue this issue in a future continuation or divisional of the present application.

Claim 66, upon which claims 67-80 depend, now recites "*said core material comprising an expansion tip mating extension.*" This should eliminate the lack of clarity alleged by examiner by making clear, as is disclosed, that the core material comprises the expansion tip mating extension.

Claim 80 is amended to depend upon claim 66 rather than upon itself, correcting a clerical error made at the time of filing. This is a formality amendment.

4,6. Claim 44, from which claims 45-50 depend, now recites the "core material within at least part of said hollow core." Note,

however, as earlier stated, the means to "securely hold said expansion-inducing tip in place during said bullet's flight to a target" may be independent of the means used for expansion of the projectile, though in the preferred embodiment, they serve double duty in a way that further enhances novelty and non-obviousness. The current amendment is made simply to bring the present case to a quick allowance, and is made without prejudice to applicant's right to pursue this issue in a future continuation or divisional of the present application.

4,7. Claim 44, from which claims 45-50 depend, now recites the "expansion-inducing tip integral with a core material" as well as "a connection between said expansion-inducing tip and said pressure shield through said hollow core, *via said core material.*" This should overcome examiner's objection. Applicant again notes that the means to "securely hold said expansion-inducing tip in place during said bullet's flight to a target" may independent of the means used for expansion of the projectile, that applicant's preferred embodiment discloses the benefit of the core material doing double duty as both means and thereby enhances novelty and non-obviousness, and that this amendment is made without prejudice to raising this issue in a future continuation or divisional.

4,8. Claim 66, upon which claims 67-80 depend, now recites "said expansion-inducing tip protruding forward of said front of said bullet subassembly." This should be responsive to examiner's

objection.

Allowable Subject Matter

9. Applicant has proposed for entry, the amendments to overcome
5 the 35 USC § 112, second paragraph rejections, and so looks
forward to the entry of these amendments and allowance of this
allowable subject matter.

Conclusion

10 10,11. Having addressed all rejections of record, all pending
claims should now be allowable, and applicant looks forward to
receiving a notice of allowance in the near future. As mentioned
earlier, if the amendments herein do not result in allowance of
all claims, applicant's counsel hereby respectfully requests a
15 telephone interview with examiner James S. Bergin to make any
final changes required to place this application into condition
for allowance, including cancellation of previously-withdrawn
claims as necessary, following receipt of this reply, and prior
to issuance of any advisory action.

Respectfully submitted,



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